



Newsletter 3rd December 2021

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Anderton
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With love we grow!

"In this second week of Advent, we ask for the grace to prepare ourselves with faith to celebrate Christmas." Pope Francis

"To learn to read is to light a fire; every syllable that is spelled out is a spark." - Victor Hugo

School Admissions for September 2022 - Primary school admission applications are open for September 2022. If you have a child in pre school at nursery, please go to <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-online-for-a-school-place/>. School faith forms are available from the school office or on our website and must be returned to the school office. Please also have a look at our school website to see our lovely new film so you can see more about us in action. www.st-josephs-anderton.lancs.sch.uk

Covid 19 in School - As you will be aware we have had a slight spike in the number of cases of Covid 19 in school and are currently under local 'Tier 2' guidance. Please may we remind parents, in particular in the run up to Christmas to keep your child at home if they are unwell and seek a PCR test (the vast majority of cases in school have presented more as the common cold than 'classic' Covid symptoms). Also, please seek a PCR test if your child is requested to do so by school if they have been identified as a close contact. Some classes may also be requested to do daily LFD tests if there is an outbreak in their class setting. If a child tests positive please contact school as soon as possible to advise and keep any siblings at home for the duration of the isolation period.

Parents' Evening - This will be held virtually via 'Schoolcloud'. The days are as follows: 7th December - KS2, 8th December - EYFS & KS1. If anyone has had difficulty accessing the system to make an appointment please contact the school office.

Scholastic Book Fair - Thank you, thank you, thank you for the overwhelming support for our book fair. It is very reassuring to see the love that the children have for books. As a result of your purchases the school has been awarded £620 of free books from Scholastic for our school libraries to further enhance the hunger for reading in our school.

Derian House - We are still selling the soft toys for Derian House, they are available for £2 each with all proceeds going to help our local children whose Christmas may not look like our own.

Cinema Trip - Whole school cinema trip, Thursday 16th December. We are constantly monitoring the feasibility of this trip in light of our increase in the number of Covid cases in school. We will keep you informed should we need to rearrange this trip until the new year to safeguard the school and wider community in the run up to Christmas. Any remaining payments can still be made via Eduspot/Schoolmoney, £7.15 per pupil, this includes a drink and a snack box, the PTFA will pay for transport.

Advent Charitable Work in School - During Advent, as a school we focus on raising money for and sending help to those in need both locally and in the wider world.

Our campaigns this year include:

1. Derian House novelties are still available for £2 each
2. Toy donations for the Chorley Buddies toy appeal for families in the Chorley area. Please send new, unwrapped toys into school for distribution via the SVP Chorley

Buddies as part of their Christmas Joy Project. Last date for donations is Wednesday 8th December.

3. Food donations for the Chorley Food Bank (please send into school next week).

4. Mary's Meals - 'Mary's Meals provides one good meal to some of the world's poorest children every school day. Their work is named after Mary, the mother of Jesus, who brought up her own child in poverty. Mary's Meals consists of, respects, and reaches out to people of all faiths and of none.'

All monies raised before the end of January 2022 are being match funded and the total doubled. Please see the attached flier. We are requesting that each family makes a small donation via Eduspot during Advent to support this charity. **Please note: This is our Christmas Jumper day fundraiser, please give as generously as you are able.**

We aim to work together for the good of others especially at this particular time of year as we prepare for Christmas

Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day - This will be on Wednesday 15th December, please ensure that if your child wishes to have a **Christmas dinner** you **must pre-book** this on 'Schoolmoney' as the catering order will be placed the week prior to this. Christmas Jumper day donations on Eduspot will go to the Mary's Meals appeal.

Christmas Plays - KS1, Reception and their Yr 6 buddies will be filming a Christmas play which will be available to parents online.

Christmas Cards - If children are wishing to send Christmas cards, there is a post box in each class, cards will be distributed in the last week of term.

"With you Always" - Service of Reconciliation which will take place in Church on Monday 6th December

Twitter Accounts - Reminder of class twitter pages

School - @stjosephsander2 Reception - @EYFSwithMissS

Year 1 - @Year1withMsG1 Year 2 - @Year2withMissJ1 Year 3 - @Year3MrsP

Year 4 - @Year4withMrsC Year 5 - @Year5withMissB Year 6 - @Year6withMrM1

Dates for your diary

6th December - 6.30pm Service of Reconciliation/Confession (in Church)

7th December - KS2 Parents' Evening 2-6pm (remotely via Schoolcloud)

8th December - EYFS & KS1 Parents' Evening 2-6pm (remotely via Schoolcloud)

15th December - Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day (Mary's Meal - Donations online)

16th December - Wigan Empire - Encanto (whole school trip), please book & pay online.

17th December - School closes at 3:15pm for Christmas